

Because heart disease is so prevalent across the Southeast and is the leading cause of death to Americans, it's important we have the resources and training necessary to combat this deadly disease. The Cookeville cardiology group strives to have not only cutting-edge knowledge to treat heart disease, but it also strives to have that kind of knowledge to educate and prevent heart disease. The Cardiovascular Center of Excellence designation helps accomplish both goals.

Led by Drs. R. Alex Case, J. Bunker Stout, Timothy S. Fournet, Michael B. Lenhart, Joel S. Tanedo and Brian Dockery, the Upper Cumberland Cardiology Consultants is a fine example of professionalism and compassion. This group of highly motivated and skilled physicians is an asset to the region. I commend them for their service to their patients and their profession.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber on October 30, 2003. I would like the record to show that, had I been present in this Chamber, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 580, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 592, 595, and 597. I also would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 581, 582, 583, 591, 593, 594, 596, 598 and 599.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber on October 31, 2003. I would like the record to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 600 and "nay" on rollcall vote 601.

JOHANNA'S LAW

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce Johanna's Law: The Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act.

Every hour, approximately 10 women in the U.S. are diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer like ovarian, cervical, or uterine cancer. Every year, 26,000 women die of a gynecologic cancer.

This is a tragedy. What makes it still more tragic is that many of those deaths could be prevented if more women knew the risk factors and recognized the early symptoms of gynecologic cancers so that they could discuss them with their doctors. As we worked on this bill, we heard story after story of women who did not recognize their early symptoms or wasted precious months waiting for appointments with the wrong kind of specialists because they and their doctors did not recognize their symptoms as gynecologic.

For ovarian cancer, the most deadly of the gynecologic cancers, the five-year survival rate for women whose cancer is detected in Stage 1 is 90 percent. In Stage 2, the survival rate is still 80 percent. But if the cancer pro-

ceeds to Stage 3 or 4, the survival rate drops dramatically, to 20 percent or less.

Unfortunately, not all gynecologic cancers have a screening test accurate enough to be used routinely on asymptomatic women. That doesn't mean they can't be detected and diagnosed early in many cases. A recent study found that almost 90 percent of women with early stage ovarian cancer had symptoms before being diagnosed. That's why public education is key—if women and their doctors know the risk factors and early signs, a specialist can use diagnostic tools to rule out cancer or detect it in the early stages.

Johanna's Law would create a federal campaign to increase early detection of these deadly cancers, and, when possible, help women reduce their risk of ever contracting them. The legislation takes a two-pronged approach, combining a national Public Service Announcement directed at all women with targeted grants to local and national organizations.

We named the legislation "Johanna's Law" after Johanna Silver Gordon, who was a longtime public school teacher in my congressional district and who died of ovarian cancer after being diagnosed in a later stage. Unfortunately, Johanna's story is all too common. I owe a special thanks to Johanna's sister, Sheryl Silver, and her family for telling Johanna's story so eloquently and working so tirelessly to ensure a better outcome for other women and their families.

I look forward to working with my cosponsor, Representative KAY GRANGER, and all of my colleagues to enact this important legislation into law.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL SAND, STONE AND GRAVEL ASSOCIATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to the National Sand, Stone and Gravel Association on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary. For the last 100 years this Association and its many members have contributed to our Nation's economy and have greatly improved the quality of life of all Americans.

To put into perspective the vital role these elements play in each of our lives I would like to share some statistics with you. If we place usage on our population; incredibly each year, every man, woman and child would use about 10 tons of sand, stone and gravel. Many of us probably fail to realize that it takes 400 tons of crushed stone, sand and gravel to build the average home and 38,000 tons for each mile of interstate highway. Without these important elements our Nation would be without roads, streets, sidewalks and runways. Additionally, we often forget that pulverized minerals from rock touch our everyday lives in products such as plastics, paint, pharmaceuticals, toothpaste, glass and chewing gum.

The aggregate industry also has tremendous impact upon our Nation's economy. The industry directly employs more than 120,000 individuals. For every million dollars that this industry outputs 19.5 jobs are created. In 2001

the aggregate industry contributed just over 14.5 billion in direct output to our economy. If we were to take into consideration the indirect benefits combined with direct output, this industry contributes \$37.6 billion to the GDP and supports over 284,000 jobs. That is an awfully impressive record.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, the aggregate industry's impact upon each of our daily lives and our economy is immense. I wholeheartedly congratulate the National Sand, Stone and Gravel association and its members on a most impressive 100 years.

COMMEMORATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION ACT OF 1987

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 4, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 15th anniversary of the United States taking a principled stand toward ensuring that the lessons of past genocides, such as Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, and the genocides in Cambodia and Rwanda, will be used to prevent future genocides.

After the horrors of the Holocaust, the international community responded to Nazi Germany's methodically orchestrated acts of genocide by approving the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in 1948. The Convention confirms that genocide is a crime under international law and defines genocide as actions committed with intent to destroy a national, ethnic, racial or religious group.

The United States, under President Harry Truman, was the first nation to sign the Convention, and it was ratified by the U.S. Senate in 1986. Following the Senate ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, Congress passed the Proxmire Act to implement the Convention and criminalize genocide under U.S. law.

Fifteen years ago today, President Ronald Reagan signed the Proxmire Act into law and put the United States on record as being strongly opposed to the heinous crime of genocide.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge consideration of H. Res. 193, legislation that I introduced with my colleague, Mr. RADANOVICH, reaffirming support of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and commemorating the anniversary of the U.S. becoming a full party to this landmark international human rights legislation.

This important piece of legislation has tremendous bipartisan support among the 110 cosponsors, and the bill was passed unanimously by the House Judiciary Committee earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House Leadership to permit immediate consideration of this legislation on the floor of the House, and I urge my colleagues to reaffirm our national resolve to ensure that the lessons of the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, and the genocides in Cambodia and Rwanda, among others, will not be forgotten.